

Serial No. 10/087,848

Docket No.: 122.1495

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please CANCEL claim 3, AMEND claims 1, 2, 4-9, 11-13 and 15-19, in accordance with the following:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for automatically creating a shortcut icon file used to start up an application program, comprising ~~the steps of:~~
storing a condition for creating the shortcut icon file;
updating an application program startup record in response to startup of the application program; and
automatically creating the shortcut icon file for the application program when the startup record satisfies the creation condition;
storing a condition for deleting the shortcut icon file; and
automatically deleting the shortcut icon file for the application program when the startup record satisfies the deletion condition and an automatic deletion exception information in the startup record does not indicate that the shortcut icon file should not be deleted.
2. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method according to claim 1, wherein:
the creation condition includes the number of application program startups as a threshold value, and
the startup record includes the number of application program startups.
3. (CANCELLED)
4. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method according to claim ~~3~~1, wherein:
the deletion condition includes as a threshold value a period during which the application program has not been executed, and
the startup record includes a date at which the application program was executed.

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5. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for automatically deleting a shortcut icon file used to start up an application program, comprising ~~the steps of:~~

storing a condition for deleting the shortcut icon file;

updating an application program startup record in response to startup of the application program; and

automatically deleting the shortcut icon file for the application program when the startup record satisfies the deletion condition and an automatic deletion exception information in the startup record does not indicate that the shortcut icon file should not be deleted.

6. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method according to claim 5, wherein;

the deletion condition includes as a threshold value a period during which the application program has not been executed, and

the startup record includes a date at which the application program was executed.

7. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method according to claim 5, further including ~~the step of restoring~~ the shortcut icon file for the application program when the startup record of the application program does not satisfy the deletion condition and when the shortcut icon file corresponding to the application program is not found.

8. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An apparatus for automatically creating a shortcut icon file used to start up an application program, comprising:

means for storing a condition for creating the shortcut icon file;

means for updating an application program startup record in response to startup of the application program; and

means for automatically creating the shortcut icon file for the application program when the startup record satisfies the creation condition; and

means for storing a condition for deleting the shortcut icon file and for automatically deleting the shortcut icon file for the application program when the startup record satisfies the deletion condition and an automatic deletion exception information in the startup record does not indicate that the shortcut icon file should not be deleted.

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9. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An apparatus according to claim 8, wherein:
the creation condition includes the number of application program startups as a threshold value, and
the startup record includes the number of application program startups.
10. (ORIGINAL) An apparatus according to claim 8, further comprising:
means for storing a condition for deleting the shortcut icon file; and
means for automatically deleting the shortcut icon file for the application program when the startup record satisfies the deletion condition.
11. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An apparatus according to claim 10, wherein:
the deletion condition includes as a threshold value a period during which the application program has not been executed, and
the startup record includes a date at which the application program was executed.
12. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An apparatus for automatically deleting a shortcut icon file used to start up an application program, comprising:
means for storing a condition for deleting the shortcut icon file;
means for updating an application program startup record in response to startup of the application program; and
means for automatically deleting the shortcut icon file for the application program when the startup record satisfies the deletion condition and an automatic deletion exception information in the startup record does not indicate that the shortcut icon file should not be deleted.
13. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An apparatus according to claim 12, wherein:
the deletion condition includes as a threshold value a period during which the application program has not been executed, and
the startup record includes a date at which the application program was executed.
14. (ORIGINAL) An apparatus according to claim 12, further including means for restoring the shortcut icon file for the application program when the startup record of the application program does not satisfy the deletion condition and when the shortcut icon file corresponding to the application program is not found.

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15. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A program storage device, readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine ~~to perform method steps for~~ creating a shortcut icon file used to start up an application program, ~~said method steps comprising:~~

storing a condition for creating the shortcut icon file;
updating an application program startup record in response to startup of the application program; and

automatically creating the shortcut icon file for the application program when the startup record satisfies the creation condition;

storing a condition for deleting the shortcut icon file; and

automatically deleting the shortcut icon file for the application program when the startup record satisfies the deletion condition and an automatic deletion exception information in the startup record does not indicate that the shortcut icon file should not be deleted.

16. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A program storage device according to claim 15, wherein:

the creation condition includes the number of application program startups as a threshold value, and

the startup record includes the number of application program startups.

17. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A program storage device according to claim 15, further comprising the steps of:

storing a condition for deleting the shortcut icon file; and

automatically deleting the shortcut icon file for the application program when the startup record satisfies the deletion condition.

18. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A program storage device according to claim 15, wherein:

the deletion condition includes as a threshold value a period during which the application program has not been executed, and

the startup record includes a date at which the application program was executed.

19. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A program storage device, readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a method steps for deleting a shortcut icon file used to start up an application program, ~~said method steps~~

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comprising by:

storing a condition for deleting the shortcut icon file;

updating an application program startup record in response to startup of the application program; and

automatically deleting the shortcut icon file for the application program when the startup record satisfies the deletion condition and an automatic deletion exception information in the startup record does not indicate that the shortcut icon file should not be deleted.

20. (ORIGINAL) A program storage device according to claim 19, wherein the deletion condition includes as a threshold value a period during which the application program has not been executed, and

the startup record includes a date at which the application program was executed.

21. (ORIGINAL) A program storage device according to claim 19, further comprising the step of restoring the shortcut icon file for the application program when the startup record of the application program does not satisfy the deletion condition and when the shortcut icon file corresponding to the application program is not found.